Welcome to US History, Semesters 1 & 2

This course is meticulously designed to align with state standards and targeted learning objectives, ensuring comprehensive coverage of essential knowledge and skills required for student success.

Course Description:
US History covers the making of modern America, from the Industrial Revolution to the present day. This self-paced course explores the major events, movements, and challenges that shaped the U.S., with a focus on how these historical developments continue to influence contemporary society.

Semester 1 focuses on the late Industrial Revolution, the Progressive movement, imperialism, and the World Wars, while Semester 2 delves into the Great Depression, the Cold War, the Civil Rights movements, terrorism, and modern social and political developments. Students will analyze the causes and effects of these events and their lasting impact on American society.

Semester 1: The Making of Modern America

- **Unit 1: The Industrial Revolution and Gilded Age**

Understand the transformation of the American economy through industrialization. Analyze the rise of labor movements, urbanization, and the social inequalities of the Gilded Age.

- **Unit 2: The Progressive Movement and Social Reform**

Study the Progressive movement's reforms and the impact of social, political, and economic changes on American society.

- **Unit 3: Imperialism and U.S. Foreign Affairs**

Investigate U.S. expansionism, the Spanish-American War, and the annexation of territories, and understand the role of the U.S. in global diplomacy.

- **Unit 4: The World Wars**

Explore the causes, events, and impacts of World War I and World War II, focusing on U.S. involvement and the home front's social and economic changes.

Learning Outcomes - Semester 1:

- Identify key events from the Industrial Revolution to World War II.
- Analyze political, economic, and social impacts on American society.
- Understand the U.S. role in shaping global history during the early 20th century.

Semester 2: Modern America and Its Challenges

- **Unit 5: The Great Depression and New Deal**

Examine the causes of the Great Depression and the effectiveness of New Deal programs in economic recovery.

- **Unit 6: The Cold War**

Study the Cold War's origins, U.S. foreign policy, and its impact on both domestic and global politics.

- **Unit 7: The Civil Rights Movements**

Explore the fight for equality through movements like the Civil Rights Movement and Women's Liberation, and the legal and social changes that resulted.

- **Unit 8: The Rise of Terrorism and Global Challenges**

Analyze the effects of terrorism, focusing on events like 9/11, the War on Terror, and contemporary issues like immigration and healthcare.

- **Unit 9: Social and Political Developments in Contemporary America**

Study the political landscape of the 21st century, examining modern movements, elections, and social issues like race relations and climate change.

Learning Outcomes - Semester 2:

- Identify and analyze major events from World War II to the present day.
- Understand the social, political, and economic forces shaping modern America.
- Evaluate the impact of the Cold War, Civil Rights movements, and contemporary challenges on U.S. society and politics.

Conclusion:

This self-paced, independent study course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of U.S. history, helping them to connect past events to modern issues. By critically analyzing key moments in American history, students will gain insight into the nation's development and the ongoing challenges it faces today. The course prepares students for a deeper understanding of the complexities of American society, its political system, and its place in the global context.